

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to the diagnosis of disease conditions, such as cancer and autoimmune disease, by the analysis of cell-free nucleosomes in samples from individuals. Methods of the invention may include contacting cell-free nucleosomes from a biological fluid sample obtained from the individual with an antibody that binds specifically with a modified histone protein. Binding of the antibody to the nucleosomes is indicative that the individual has the disease condition.